

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2007

ZOO CELEBRATES ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND SERPENTS

FRESNO, Ca. – Irish eyes will be smiling on the animals at Fresno Chaffee Zoo on Saturday, March 17. Zoo staff will celebrate St. Patrick's Day by giving themed treats to the animals during the Claws and Clover enrichment event. The Zoo's enrichment program is designed to stimulate natural behaviors in the animals such as foraging and play.

The luck of the Irish will be with snake enthusiasts as the Zoo features these fascinating reptiles throughout the day. According to legend, St. Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland but we will celebrate our snakes with informative displays, hands-on encounters between 10 am and 1 pm, and a keeper talk at the reptile building at 2 pm. It's OK to be a wee bit scared as you meet serpents up close and discover a bit 'o blarney about these misunderstood animals!

Zoo visitors will receive a schedule of events when they enter the Zoo.

ENRICHMENT SCHEDULE – 3/17/07

11:00	Australian aviary birds
11:30	Elephants
12:00	Orangutans and siamangs
12:30	Red-ruffed lemurs and anteaters
1:00	Warthogs and peccaries
1:30	Tigers and leopard
2:00	Galapagos tortoises
2:30	Sea lion
3:00	Camels and birds of prey